



HITS Committee Meeting
December 7, 2011
3:00 P.M. EST Teleconference

Meeting Record

Attending:

Dennis Blair, Chair (AL)
Robert Cooney (PA)
Chip Cooper (NH)

John Cramer (ID)
Jim DeTienne (MT)
Mary Hedges (NASEMSO)

Susan McHenry (NHTSA)
Sue Morris (OH)
Tomi St Mars (AZ)

- I. **Welcome** - Dennis Blair called the meeting to order, asking everyone to identify themselves for the record.

- II. **Proposed HITS Goals for 2012** – Dennis said that the NASEMSO Board of Directors (formerly known as the Executive Committee) will hold its annual planning retreat next week and will be reviewing all committee and council goals. He reviewed the proposed HITS goals for 2012 and requested feedback from members.
 - A. Goal #1. Increase *NASEMSO representation at national highway safety-related meetings*. Chip Cooper commented it is a worthwhile goal, but the problem is finding time for the meetings. Others agreed but indicated that it is an important goal.
 - B. Goal #2. *Recruit and engage HITS members to serve as active NASEMSO liaisons to various highway safety-related national committees and organizations*. There was discussion if goal 1 and 2 should be combined, but it was decided they were distinct and separate goals.
 - C. Goal #3. *Educate State EMS Officials on effective collaboration with their respective state highway safety counterparts. Provide tools for use by State EMS Officials when interacting with highway safety colleagues and communities*. Dennis explained the tools could include a power point presentation and talking points that EMS officials could use when presenting or speaking with highway safety colleagues. Sue Morris and Tomi St. Mars commented that this goal is important and tools would be helpful for people in the EMS office.
 - D. Goal #4. *Promote the further use and application of EIRRA (EMS Incident Response & Readiness Assessment) for measuring preparedness for response to highway MCIs as well as other manmade or natural disasters. A tool that was initially completed and tested by NASEMSO in 2011, EIRRA has potential for much wider distribution and application in the broader highway transportation and emergency preparedness communities*. Dennis stressed the importance of goal 4 and 5. Susan McHenry agreed, adding that the NTSB was excited about EIRRA and MIECE.
 - E. Goal # 5. *Promote the concept of a model inventory for EMS similar to the model inventories of highway partners (MIRE, MMUCC, etc). Seek opportunities for further development of the MIECE Proof of Concept completed by NASEMSO in 2011*. Dennis said the highway office in his state wants to build onto MIECE.
 - F. Other: Bob Cooney asked if NEMSIS should not be included in these goals. He suggested that language be included to continue to support NEMSIS goals and to ensure that state highway officials are aware of NEMSIS. Mary will draft Goal 6 to address NEMSIS.

III. Project and Committee Updates

- A. **Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) National Strategy Update** – Mary Hedges reported that the contractor recently completed the TZD National Strategy document, but the steering committee and panel members were not completely satisfied with the product, primarily because it did not include specific strategies or steps for achieving the vision. Dia attended a meeting last week on the matter and additional information should be forthcoming.
- B. **Rural Highway Mass Casualty Guidelines for State Officials** – Susan McHenry reported that the Guidelines document was the additional piece needed from NASEMSO on the EIRRA/MIECE effort. This will be presented to FICEMS on December 19. The finished product will then be sent to NTSB in response to their recommendation to FICEMS following the Mexican Hat incident investigation.
- C. **Emergency Responder Day at ITS America /World Congress** - Mary Hedges reported she attended this one-day event in Orlando in mid-October. The Intelligent Transportation Society offered one free day of registration to emergency responders at this international conference which features the latest in intelligent transportation systems. Several national speakers shared remarks with those in attendance.
- D. **NFPA 1917 Ambulance Standards Update** - Mary Hedges reported on behalf of Jay Bradshaw who was unable to join the call. The Technical Committee has finished its work on NFPA 1917 and it is now before the full NFPA for review. The understanding is that it will be published in May 2012, with a vote expected by the NFPA in June 2012. If adopted, it will go into effect in 2013. The good news is that although there was some discussion about when to reopen the standard setting process and consider the many safety standards that were not part of the current version, NFPA has agreed to reopen it immediately rather than waiting the normal 3-5 years before doing so. Sue Prentiss, who has been NASEMSO's primary representative on the committee, will be handing over the representation duties to Jay Bradshaw and Sue will act as alternate to the committee.
- E. **EMS Human Factors and EMS Worker Sizing Projects** - Chip Cooper, who is serving as NASEMSO liaison, explained his activities in regard to these two projects. He spoke with the project person from NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) about the EMS Human Factors project. They are looking for input from those who work in the back of an ambulance via a survey that was recently posted online. Chip has sent the survey link to EMS providers in his state and will be sending it to the Data Managers group for further distribution. The other project is a CDC/NIOSH worker sizing (anthropometry) project which will begin in 2012. They plan to attend 5 major EMS events in 2012 and 5 in 2013, where they will collect a variety of measurements of EMTs/paramedics.
- F. **NTIMC: National Traffic Incident Management Coalition** – Although Scott Winston was unable to join the call, he submitted an update which Mary summarized. Much of the last six months has been spent on refocusing the strategic direction for the NTIMC. In September, they collected feedback from stakeholders via a webinar and needs assessment survey. One goal is to maintain an environment that connects national, regional, state and local traffic incident and event management organizations. They will conduct a joint TSAG/NTIMC executive briefing by teleconference on December 20 in preparation for the briefing with USDOT Executives in January 2012.
- G. **NCHRP 20-05, Models for Emergency Response within Golden Hour** - Jim DeTienne reported that he is one of three NASEMSO members who serve on the panel which oversees the project (Dia and Dean Cole are the other two). The project is not a research effort, but is intended to synthesize existing models that demonstrate good emergency response within the “golden

hour". The EMS representatives on the panel discussed changing the golden hour concept to one that reflects the current science. There were some 15 bidders for the project. The panel contracted with Kathy Burke Moore, former state EMS official from Minnesota, who also has a highway safety background. She will develop a survey for 5 or 6 of the most rural states selected by the panel.

- H. **NCHRP 17-57, Development of an Improved Metric for Serious Traffic Crash Injuries** – Mary briefly reported that this new multi-year research project is intended to develop a metric for defining what constitutes a serious injury in a crash. NASEMSO submitted several names for consideration as members of the panel. Dia Gainor was selected to serve on the panel overseeing the research project.
- I. **MMUCC: Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria Expert Panel** – Dennis reported that Dia was successful in convincing the panel to include a diagram of an ambulance patient compartment in the revised MMUCC.
- J. **CUBRC Center for Transportation Injury & Research Project** – Dia was not able to join the call to report. Mary stated that the FHWA awarded a contract to the CUBRC Center which includes a component involving MIECE. Dia has inquired about assisting in the effort via a subcontract but they are not interested at this time. There will be further information on this at a future meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 PM EST.

The meeting record was respectfully prepared by Mary Hedges, NASEMSO Program Manager.